Will He Inculcate Truth With a Sermon Dropped Into "Hamlet"?-Tip for Dramatists: Go Partners With Royalty. but Spread the Butter on Thick.

a new variation on an old, old theme. A young clergyman, discovering that the pulpit does not give him enough notoriety, has announced his intention of going on the boards. Of course he will play Shakespeare and Browning-no lesser game ever interests ambitious débutants. Novelty ever interests ambitious débutants. Novelty thus far there is not. But listen to the plea of this ingenuous youth. He does not purpose elevating the stage—no, not he; his scheme is bigger. He will inculcate the grand truths of morality and religion with the aid of the theatre. How he proposes to accomplish this feat is not stated; perhaps by intercalating a sermon in the middle of "Hamlet"; perhaps by playing the role of a roue with a devout mien. O drama, how art thou fishified by all this cant and reant!

Baron Schoenthan, says the Era, the author of the drama "Maria Theresa," states that some of the best scenes of the play were suggested by the Emperor Francis of Austria. "Hearing that a play dealing with his great ancestress was to be written, remarks the author, "his Majesty invited me to the Hofburg and asked me about the plot and various incidents of the drama-

the plot and various incidents of the drama. After listening patiently to what I had to say, the Emperor told me a number of anecdotes concerning Maria Theresa and many incidents of her life new to me. 'I got them from my father, who got them from his father, said the Emperor. 'They are family secrets, but will not suffer from being put in a good play.'

"When I finished my drama the Emperor again asked me to the Hofburg, and I read the piece to him," continued the author, "and then and there he suggested a number of improvements, all of which I followed, and they pleased the public immensely. When I saw his Majesty a third time I took the liberty to say: 'If your Majesty had not been a sovereign, the profession of playwright might have yielded you a success and laurels.' 'Hush,' cried Francis Joseph, 'William might hear of this, and I don't want to have it known that I poach on his preserves.'

A pretty story with a familiar ring. Voltaire made the same courtierlike speech to Frederick, and then went out into the streets of Potsdam and snickered. However, Baron Schoenthan knows on which side of his bread the butter is thickest. Francis Joseph has nothing to fear from Kaiser William, who just now is employed in driving from Germany impressionistic art and belauding the framed monstrosities in brown and black which fill the Royal galleries at Berlin. But the Schoenthan affair constitutes a

precedent. Dramatists before putting pen to paper in plays dealing with royal fam-lies would do well to interview members of lies would do well to interview members of exalted households in order to glean anecdotes. For example, Theodore Kremer contemplates a play in which the adventures of Mr. Roosevelt are to be set forth—a hypothetical case this, but it will serve. Forthwith the author of "Rachel Goldstein" and half a hundred classics of the Far East Side, visits Oyster Bay. Then, armed with facts, bristling with facts, Herr Kremer elaborates his play, and presently all the billboards in the land announce in tall letters the advent of a new national drama, entitled, "The Prince of Rough Riders; or, Black Won at St. Juan."

Beerbohm-Tree has founded a school for actors in connection with His Majesty's Theatre. It promises to be a great success, though it is doubtful if the English manager will emulate Herr Conried and teach his feminine pupils the proper pronunciation of the English tongue.

One of the London newspapers has discovered that David Belasco is a descendant of the old Portuguese-English family of the name, of which a celebrated puglist was a member. Mr. Belasco is something of a fighter himself.

The expression "Brunch" used by Ferdinand Gottschalk in "Glittering Gloria" is a combination portmanteau word, in which is packed two meanings—breakfast and lunch. It derives from Lewis Carroll, the author of "Alice in Wonderland."

Mr. Gottschalk's many friends and admirers were very glad to see him in his old form the other night at Daly's. At one time there was a rumor that he would lose a leg by amputation. However, all's well that dances well, and there was no suspicion of lameness in the exceedingly lively underpinnings of clever, volatile Ferdinand.

It might prove profitable to write for Mr. Gottschalk a piece in which he could play the piano. He is musical, and can imitate many persons on the keyboard.

"The Philanthropists," a translation of M. Brieux's "Les Bienfaiteurs," was given recently by the Stage Society in London. The play has not worn well, though but few years old. His new drama saw a pro-duction in Paris night before last.

Capt. Basil Hood's comedy, "Love in a Cottage," is praised in London for its sim-plicity and charm. It is of the "Caste" and "Sweet Lavender" pattern, and is full of humor as well as sentiment.

There is a mighty pother in the Fortnightly Review over the degeneration of the British drama-was there ever a time in history when the drama was not degenerating? Distinguished personages, whose practical knowledge of the theatre is not remarkable, protest against the etcetera, &c. You know the style of attack! That magic phrase "Endowed theatre" again flashes forth in all its illuding splendor. And the millionaires still continue to hang back. And they always will as the Error. back. And they always will. As the Era edi orially asks: What does London want with an endowed theatre? There are too many theatres both in London and New What we most need are more en-managers—endowed with brains enough to make a theatre pay. Any other test but the box office one is futile. Money talks, and its eloquence is never so marked There are lots plays, but no stock companies to play them.

"Tiresome Beauty" is a new one act play in verse by Ludwig Fulda, the original author, despite himself, of "Admirable Crichton" and other Robinson Crusoe pieces. Didn't Guy de Maupassant write a story called "Inutile Beauty?"

A society for the promotion of modern dramatic art has been started at Strassburg. the town where the goose liver patties are composed.

José Echegeray's new four act drama is entitled "The Disequilibrated." An interesting account of it may be found in the Mercure de France for February. Any play from the pen of this powerful, unequal dramatist was bound to be of interest. The main theme is that men and women of virtuous lives are doubly exposed to danger at a critical, passionate moment. Then the cunning, mean souled adventurer becomes cunning, mean souled adventurer becomes their master. The third act is pronounced by the Spanish critic Gomez Carillo as being forceful. The piece has had a big success, Madame Guerrero playing the principal role. Señor Gomez, however, does not hesitate to say that translated "La Déséquilibrée" would prove puerile in idea in Paris or elsewhere.

As if "La Féconde Madame Tanqueray" was not a bad enough typographical error. an English advertisement announces "La Joie fair puer," instead of peur. The substituted word—an odorous one—makes all the difference in the world

OPERA AND BALLET AGAIN. Mme. Calve Sings Two Parts and "Coppelia" is Repeated.

Ash Wednesday and the chill of a wintry wind appeared to have struck the Metropolitan Opera House last night. The Herr Director Conried had provided a bill which looked like a grand gala charity performance or a manager's benefit at the end of a cheerful season, but there was nothing

Mme. Calvé (with her contract cut down) appeared in a scene from one opera and the whole of another, but eleven white fronted men looked sadly and solemnly from the opera club box, and there were nail holes in the "glittering horseshoe." Bianca Froehlich danced Swanilda in "Coppelia," but there were empty rows in the orchestra, and even the opera school did not turn out in the rear stall boxes.

Mme. Calvé disclosed the present measure of her powers in the prison scene from Bolto's "Mefistofele" and in Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana." In the former she had the assistance of Mr. Dippel as Faust, Mr. Journet as Mifistofele, and a arge, able-bodied cross, to which she clung with muscular despair not in the score It was a touching sight, but not even Mme. Calvé has yet explained how a roadside cross about seven feet high came to be standing around in a dungeon, doing nothing but waiting for her to come and cling to it. However, the cross bore up bravely, and, having nothing to sing, was discordant only to the eye.

The prima donna sang the "Mefistofele" scene a great deal better than she has sung anything else this season. It cannot be said that she was in good voice, and in the first air her bits of colorature were cheerfully cumbersome and hard in tone. After that, however, she sang with more smoothness and with dramatic significance. Mr. Dippel was an obliging Faust and per-

mitted himself to be pushed about by Marguerite with great toleration.

"Cavalleria Rusticana" passed away without further excitement than a fit of anger on the part of Mme. Calvé because Mr. Hinrichs, the conductor, not being a mind reader, could not foresee a sudden desire on her part to alter the tempo. She stamped her foot viriously, as champion its dancers. on her part to alter the tempo. She stamped her foot viciously, as champion jig dancers do when they wish the orchestra to play faster. Mr. Hinrichs, who has conducted everything from a one act opera to a music festival, understood and obeyed. But neither he nor any other conductor can follow the vagaries of Mme. Calvé's singing, and here there were the troubles.

and hence there must be troubles.

The other members of the cast of "Cavalleria Rusticana" were the same as at the last performance, except that Mme. Homer replaced the extraordinary young person who sang loid. This was a source of much comfort to the ear and pleasure to the eye. No one blamed *Turidu*. Delibes s delightful ballet, "Coppelia,"

gave the audience much pleasure. Miss fröhlich is comely dances well and knows how to be a doll in the second act. The revival of this pretty work is one of the most gracious of Mr. Conried's achievements. People who do not go to see it miss a genuine treat.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Winchell Smith Ill-Keith Building a New Theatre-"Yankee Consul" Here.

Aubrey Boucicault has been engaged as leading man for Katherine Kennedy's new starring venture at the Garrick. Rehearsals of "The Ruling Power" began yes

terday. Winchell Smith, the manager of "Candida," is ill in his apartments in the Albemarle of quinsy brought on by overwork since the Mayor closed the Vaudeville

The "Yankee Consul" company arrived last night by special train from the West. It opens at the Broadway with a matinée on Washington's Birthday.

At an extra performance on Saturday, at half prices, the Irving Place Theatre is to give Lessing's comedy "Minna von Barnhelm." On Tuesday Gustav von Seyffertitz is to have a benefit in a new comedy. The last picture taken of Senator Hanna

The last picture taken of Senator Hanna is being shown on the biograph at Keith's. B. F. Keith has purchased a site and is erecting a new theatre in Pittsburg.

Tony Pastor has in preparation a scene from Edward Harrigan's play "Under Cover." Dan Collyer, Joseph M. Sparks and his company will produce it.

Kirke L. Shelle has arranged with Harrison Grey Fiske for an extension of the time of "The Virginian" at the Manhattan Theatre for four weeks longer. Dustin

Theatre for four weeks longer. Dustin Farnum is to be starred some time later. William Gillette's season in "The Admirable Crichton" at the New Lyceum has been extended to Easter Monday, Charles Hawtrey, in his new play, "Saucy Sally," will succeed Mr. Gillette.

ALL THE STARS HELPING. Some of the Novelties They Will Show at the Actors' Fund Benefit.

Almost every stage favorite in town is on the programme arranged by Daniel Frohman for the Actors' Fund benefit at the New York Theatre a week from next Tuesday afternoon, and most of the features presented will be stage novelties. A new play, "A Dakota Widow," by Grace Livingston Furniss, will be given by Robert Edeson, Elsie de Wolfe and May Robson; another, "The March of Time," by Cosmo another, "The March of Time," by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, will show off Dorothy Dorn, Hattie Williams and Joseph Wheelock, Jr. Then there will be a one act dramatic sketch by Clay Green, the skit showing Shylock before the Court of Appeals, a Sam Bernard monologue, a burlesque, "Way Up East," whose title sufficiently describes it; another skit, "The Holidays," written by Grant Stewart for the Tweifth Night Club, and specialties from every important show on Broadway.

REPAIRS FIRST, MAYOR SAYS. Unless They're Made in Time, Bosenfeld's Opening of the Bijou Is Off.

Mayor McClellan's attention was called yesterday to the fact that the Bijou Theatre was advertised to open on Saturday night with Sydney Rosenfeld's Century Theatre Stock Company in "Much Ado About Nothing." The Mayor remarked that the police would see that the Bijou remained police would see that the Bijou remained dark unless certain repairs were made. When Mr. Rosenfeld heard what the Mayor had said last night he lost no time in getting to the Bijou. He saw Treasurer Campbell, who represents the Sires, and was assured that the necessary changes would be made in time for his company to open on the night advertised.

An inspector of the Building Department ordered sprinklers and bigger standpipes installed in the theatre yesterday. The contract for these changes was let soon after they were ordered and the work is to be finished by to-morrow night.

"PROPS" FROM WALLACK'S SOLD. An Auction of Relies With Attractions for Theatrical Folk.

The sale of old costumes, pictures, furniture and stage "props" recently removed from a storeroom in Wallack's Theatre to the Knickerbocker Art Galleries began yesterday. Some of these things date nack to the time of Lester Wallack and his first theatre at Broadway and Broome street. The costumes were all sold yester-

There was a fair attendance at the sale. with a sprinkling of theatrical folks among with a sprinking of theatrical folks among the bidders. B. Kiralfy bought many of the old costumes, which fetched from 50 cents to \$7 each. Andrew Mack bought several old flintlocks cheap. Other buyers were Adele Ritchie, Maclyn Arbuckle, George Kingsbury and Fred Lennoz.

Yesterday's offerings netted \$1,822. The sale will be continued to-day.

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ABSOLUTELY **PURE** There is no substitute

WESTCHESTER GRANT VETOED.

MAYOR SAYS CITY SHOULD HAVE COMPENSATION

And Safeguards That Are Not Provided -Alderman Sickles at the Hearing Impugns Motives of the Board-Prestdent Gotshall Accused in His Absence.

Mayor McClellan vetoed yesterday the Aldermen's resolution giving permission to the New York, Westchester and Boston Railway Company to cross the streets of The Bronx. His veto message says:

The ordinance is deficient in the respect that it does not protect the city's interests, and that failure of itself makes it objectionable. The privilege which this ordinance would bestow upon the applicant is given without any compensation to the city, and no contract obligation is imposed on the grantee to bear any part of the expense which it seems reasonable to assume will fall on the city in the natural course of its development by reason of the construction and operation of this road.

It is well for the city to encourage the extension of transit facilities, but a time has come when it is unwise to let the urgency of public need force us into measures of temporary expediency regardless of the effect of such a policy on the future welfare of the city.

In my first message to your honorable board I spoke of the necessity of a general fiscal policy which should be so clearly recognized that no administration, whatever its political character, could or would depart from it. I believe also that some uniform system should be adopted for the protection of municipal interests in cases like that dealt with in this ordinance. This right to cross streets, so indispensable to the railroad companies, is a valuable municipal asset and reasonable consideration should be exacted for it.

I shall not attempt at this time to set up a The ordinance is deficient in the respec

for it.

I shall not attempt at this time to set up a general rule for the granting of such privileges, but merely point out some of the omissions which make it impossible for me to give my approval to this ordinance.

No provision is made for a money compensation to the city and no condition is imposed that the expense of the structures necessary to admit of the tracks running under and over the grade of the street shall either in whole or in part be borne by the company.

either in whole or in part be borne by the company.

The city is not safeguarded against the building of unsightly or inartistic structures which might forever deface the territory through which the road proposed to pass.

The grant involves the building of bridges, which otherwise the city would not have to construct or maintain, and it does not appear that the railroad company is to assume any part of this expense.

It imposes no obligation on the applicant in regard to the cost of the structures in the opening of new streets or the widening of existing streets which will come inevitably with the increase of population.

There is no restraint upon the company as to the use of such motive power within the city limits as to prevent the nuisances of noise and smoke.

Important as these considerations are, there

Important as these considerations are, there is still another, which should have great weight: the ordinance takes no care to in-sure the usefulness of the road to the public in the number of trains to be operated, the rate of fare, the location of stations and

other details that involve convenience and

other details that involve convenience and comfort.
While there is opportunity these advantages ought to be secured by agreement instead of seeking them after the corporation has gained its desires.
For these reasons, while I keenly realize the need for immediate transit improvements in the northern part of the city, I must disapprove this ordinance.
The vete will not benefit the rival Port

The veto will not benefit the rival Port Chester company. The Westchester company will renew its application and offer to pay trackage rental. The safeguarding to pay trackage rental. The safeguarding of the city against unsightly bridges, consultation with the city authorities on location of stations, the number of trains to be run and the fares to be charged are condiwhich the company will undoubtedly

Before sending in his veto the Mayor gave a public hearing in the Council Chamber. Out of the 300 persons who attended the meeting six were in favor of the West-chester grant. The rest were friends of the Port Chester company's project. The only speaker who impugned the motives of the Aldermen was Alderman Daniel E. Sickles. He said:

I appear here to-day because I am anxious to preserve the good name of our city government. Your Honor has only to glance at the columns of the public press to know that this matter has become a public scandal in our community. Is it any wonder that such a scandal has been aroused when we have on the one hand respectable and responsible parties applying for a franchise and having their application held up for seven months, and on the other hand, a rival company coming forward to have their application granted in the twinkling of an eye? Everybody knows why the application of the Port Chester company was ignored, and everybody knows why the application of the Westchester company was granted so specify. I need not voice this public suspicion, but I am afraid that it is too well grounded. Prof. Charles V. Collin, one of the coursel for the New York and Stamford Railroad Company, was the principal speaker in opposing the Westchester company's charter. I appear here to-day because I am anxious

tacked the Westchester grant. He attacked the Westchester company's charter.
When the Westchester's innings began Charles E. Hughes said the question the Mayor had to consider was not the merits or demerits of the claims of the two companies, but whether the Westchester company was a competent body and had the financial ability to carry out its undertaking. He maintained the affirmative at

George S. Graham of Philadelphia, counsel for the banking house of Dick & Robin-son, said his clients had satisfied them-selves that the company had a right to construct a road under its charter and were prepared to provide \$13,000,000 for

were prepared to provide \$15,000,000 for its construction and equipment.

"Some of the newspapers," he added, "have represented that I am acting on behalf of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company, but I want to say that every utterance of that kind is absolutely and unqualified by false." absolutely and unqualifiedly false An ex-Assistant District Attorney, in an appeal to the Mayor to sign the grant, made a personal attack on President Gotshall of the Port Chester company. He

said:

I want to call your attention to the fact that Mr. Gotshall is not here to-day. Yet this man has been going around claiming that the Aldermen were bribed and that the New Haven and Hartford company is back of the Westchester company. Do you know why Gotshall is not here? It is because he could not answer the question: "Have you got the money to build this road?" The Port Chester road has not got a dollar, and its only purpose in trying to get this franchise is to sell it. I have investigated this fellow Gotshall. I knew he would not be here to-day.

Gotshall. I knew he would be day.

The project to build a railroad through Westchester county was conceived by the late W. R. Bergholz. He formed the New York, Westchester and Boston company. A man who was at one time secretary and treasurer of this company got possession of the books, maps, field notes, blue prints and other data of this company. Having got possession of them by reason of his position, the minute that old man Bergholz dropped

dead he formed the Port Chester company. That man is Gotshall.

Mr. Gotshall returned to this city last night from Albany. Mr. Gotshall denies that he ever was in possession of charts or maps of the New York, Westchester and Boston road, but says he had 200 shares of the company's stock which was taken from him under a false pretence and had the late W. R. Bergholz arrested in 1898 on a charge of forgery for having illegally assigned this stock to himself. Concerning the financial condition of the Port Chester road Mr. Gotshall said:

"When we first sought a grant to cross streets in The Bronx an investigation was made of our financial affairs. The case was taken before Justice Keogh in the Supreme Court and he appointed a commission to investigate. This commission consisted of George R. Read and Dallas Pratt. They reported later that the Port Chester company was the roughly capable of prestrict all desirable this state of the state of the company was the roughly capable of the capable of the company was the roughly capable of the company was the roughly capable of the capable o

Chester company was thoroughly capable of meeting all financial obligations that would

NEW RIPLEY HOUSE FLOODED. Main Damages Residences in East 79th Street.

The house of Sidney Dillon Ripley at 16 East Seventy-ninth street and five other houses on the same street were flooded on Sunday by the breaking of the water main. In the Ripley house, where the most serious damage was done, the water rose twelve feet in the basement, ruining many things that were stored there, including several trunks said to centain valuable gowns belonging to Mrs. Ripley. A steam pump was still at work getting out the

pump was still at work getting out the water last night.

According to some of those whose cellars were flooded the water began coming in several weeks ago. The Abingdon apartment house at Madison avenue and Seventy-ninth street was one of the buildings to suffer and the janitor notified both the Water Department and the Health Department a week ago. Men who were sent to investigate said that the water trickling in came from a spring. came from a spring.
On Sunday the water began to pour into

cellars, ripping up the asphalt. The Ripley house was only recently finished and the family has been moving in. A lot of things had been put in the cellar and these were all affoat. In the Abingdon the water flooded the engine room, put the fire out and ruined

The Water Department was notified, but it was not until the head gatekeeper of the department could be reached that the water in the street was shut off. It was then found that the 10-inch main had broken in two places. The water had run to the lower side of the street on account of the hill, and none of the houses on the upper side, including that of ex-Mayor Grace, was damaged.

The Ripleys are away. No information as to the extent of the damage done there could be obtained at the house last night. The steam pump has been working two days and last night there still was water in the

JAM AT FERRY HOUSE.

Police Reserves Called Out for Crowd at Long Island City.

Extra police were called out yesterday morning to handle the big crowd that gath ered in the Long Island Railroad's ferry house at Long Island City, waiting for the ferryboats to make their way to the slips through the jam of ice in the river. The crowd got so impatient at last that it made a rush which threatened to demolish the gates at the entrance for teams. The lone policeman at the ferry house then telephoned for help. The reserves that came remained for two hours and had their hands full attending to the crowd and preventing women from being hurt.

HAD "PARSIFAL" SHOW OUTFIT.

Young Man Held in Philadelphia for Stealing Biograph Machines and Slides.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17.-Taken from his bride, with whom he was about to start on a tour through the State, E. L. Stubbs.

on a tour through the State, E. L. Stubbs, a young man from New York, spent to-night in a cell at police headquarters. He was arrested on the charge of stealing a stereopticon outfit belonging to the Parsifal Picture and Lecture Company of New York, by which he was formerly employed.

Stubbs and his bride were arrested at a theatrical bearding house. They had packed their grips and were headed for a railroad station. The stereopticon outfit, consisting of two biograph machines and a collection of slides showing scenes from "Parsifal." was recovered. It is valued at \$300. Stubbs, according to the detectives, confessed and said that he and his wife intended to travel through the State and give exhibitions. He was remanded pending a further hearing to await the arrival of John Lodge, a representative of the company Lodge, a representative of the company from New York.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Feb. 17.—Carrie Nation started from New York on Monday with a vaudeville company to tour Connecticut and Massachusetts. When they reached Derby, where they were to appear that night, the man having charge of the "Parsifal" pictures, the property of the manager, was missing with the pictures. He was traced to Philadelphia, arrested and remanded for trial and remanded for trial.

OVERSTRENUOUS SUPERS.

Wilton Lackage Has a Black Eye From the Nightly Panie in "The Pit." Wilton Lackaye, the star of "The Pit" at the Lyric Theatre, was jostled so roughly by the supers in the panic scene in the fourth act on Monday night that he was knocked down and while falling struck his left eye on a piece of scenery. His eye blackened and the left side of his face became so badly swollen that he has been keeping the uninjured side to his audi-ences since. He had to wear glasses fall

through yesterday's performances. Opera Company Going to Buffalo.

Mr. Conried arranged yesterday to take the Metropolitan Opera House company to Buffalo to fill in the second half of the first week of its tour. The company was to have gone to Baltimore, but the fire made that impossible. The company will go on from Buffalo to Chicago, Boston, Pitts-burg and possibly to Cincinnati.

Cushman-Corbin.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Feb. 17 .- Miss Abbie B. Corbin, the daughter of Counsellor and Mrs. Charles L. Corbin of Metuchen, was married to Dr. Herbert Cushman, a professor of philosophy in Tufts College, at the bride's home last evening. There were about 150 guests present. The Rev. Dr. Ecob of Philadelphia performed the cereHARPERS

Yarborough story of English political life the Premier that will interest by its power and

high in affairs of State. Yar-Agnes Russell Weekes borough, clever, engaging, ambitious, is a most interesting study.

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PUBLICATIONS.

or you will sit up late. A novel by GENERAL EDWARD F. JONES 12 mo., 250 pages, fine cloth bound, gift ton deckle edge, 25illustrations. Sold everywherest \$1.00. Feetpaid same price. Next edition new ready. JONES of BINGHAMTON, Pob. Binghamton, N. Y.

50C.—Maupassant's Short Stories, Amateur Cracksman, Reynolds' Old London, Tom Jones, De Keck. PRATT, 161 6th av.

FIFTY-FIVE OFFICES AT STAKE C. S. BOARD VOTES TAX DEPUTIES

INTO THE EXEMPT CLASS. State Civil Service Board Has the Final Say on It-If It Goes Through, the

Deputies, Now Protected, Can Be Turned Out-Argument Pro and Con. The Municipal Civil Service Commission. at the instance of the Tax Commissioners, unanimously decided yesterday to recommend to the State board that the fifty-five deputy tax commissioners be appointed

without competitive examination. If the State board assents, all the present deputies, now protected, can be turned out. The Civil Service Reform Association pposed the change and had its secretary, Eliot H. Goodwin, appear at yesterday's meeting to argue the matter. A decision of the Court of Appeals, handed down on Nov. 24. of last year, held that a deputy tax commissioner, although a veteran, was not entitled to a hearing on charges on removal; thus, as it is maintained, fixing the position of deputy as coming within the meaning of the word in Section 21 of the Civil Service law, in which it is prescribed

that the provision regarding the removal of veterans shall not apply "to the position of private secretary, cashier or deputy of any office or department."

President O'Donnel of the Tax Board President O'Donnel of the Tax Board relied upon this decision in applying to the board for the reclassification.

Mr. Goodwin argued that the decision did not hold that the deputy tax commissioners were deputies in the sense in which the word is used in that section of the law which provides for the exemption "of deputies of principal executive officers authorized by law to act generally for and in place of their principals." He pointed out that deputy tax commissioners were tax assessors simply and had no power to perform any of the offices of their principals, whose duties devolved on assistant commissioners when occasion arose.

commissioners when occasion arose Tax Commissioner Strasbourger spoke for the Commissioners of Taxes. He said

for the Commissioners of Taxes. He said the board simply wanted to have the rules of their department in accordance with the decision of the courts.

Frank Harvey Field said that to put the assessors in the power of politicians to whom they would owe their appointments, without examination would work great harm to property expers and would not harm to property owners and would pre-clude impartial assessments. Such a quasi-judicial position should be exempt from the influence of the appointing power. J. Warren Green of the law committee of the Civil Service Reform Association and George McAneny also attacked the scheme George McAneny also attacked the scheme

Two Sisters Want Divorces From Two Brothers.

DUBLIN, Ind., Feb. 17.-Two sisters and two brothers are the principals in a double divorce action filed in the Delaware Cir-cuit Court. Mrs. Laura K. Dwyer, aged cuit Court. Mrs. Laura K. Dwyer, aged 18, wants a release from her husband, Abner T. Dwyer, and her sister, Mrs. Pearl C. Dwyer, aged 16, asks for a separation from Thomas T. Dwyer. Both want their maiden name, Newcomer, restored. The Newcomer sisters were married to the Dwyer brothers one year ago. Neither couple lived together long.

TO THE MERCHANTS OF NEW YORK CITY :

Shall we heed the warning of the Baltimore fire or wait until the lesson is repeated at home? Shall we depend wholly

on our Fire Department, good as it is, or help ourselves to a protection so thorough that we might almost dispense with the firemen?

The Mayor has started the ball in the right direction and the merchants should back him up.

In a letter to his Honor, which we have asked the newspapers to print, we have stated our views regarding a complete system of fire protection which a supplementary water supply would render practicable.

Shall we have a fireproof

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Book Binding.

PUBLICATIONS.

other bookstores of having our own Bindery (at THE KNICKERBOCKER PRESS), we invite customers to entrust to our care binding of all kinds. We are interested in simple and inexpensive work as well as the more el aborate styles. A large variety of specimens of our handiwork will always be found in our stock. Old bindings neatly repaired.

Private libraries examined and suggestions made as to desirable renovations.

Retail Dent. Putnams 27 & 29 W. 23d 5t.

AMUSEMENTS.

NEW AMSTERDAM | Mats., Wed., Sat. LAST WEEK MOTHER GOOSE But One. MOTHER GOOSE NEW YORK HAST Week. Last Mat. Sat.

Chauncey OLCOTT in his new play.

Good Reserved Seats, 50c. 75c., 1.00, 1.50.

Opening Washington's Birthday Mat., Feb. 22.
RICHARD CARLE in THE TENDER FOOT SEATS SELLING. Prices, 50, 1.00, 1.50. BROADWAY 41st at & Hway. Evs. 8:15.
Last Week, THE MUSICAL SUCCESS, THE MEDAL AND MAID JAMES T. POWERS.

BEGINNING NEXT MON. MAT. FEB. 22
Washington's Birthday.
Henry W. Savage will offer
RATMOND HITCHCOCK =YANKEE CONSUL=

Boston

Symphony

Orchestra

CAR NEGIE HALL

TO-NIGHT AT 8:18

Programme:
SMETANA, Overture to the Opera, "The Bartered Bride":
RICHARD STRAUSS: "Don Quisote" (Introductory theme, with variations and finale), Fantastical Variations on a theme of knightly character, Op. 35 (First time at these concerts): CESAR FRANCK, Symphonic Poem, "The Wild Huntsman":
BEETHOVEN, Symphony No. 7, in A major, Op. 92.

Mr. Gericke
BRAHMS, Symphony in E minor, No. 4, Op. 92; LALO, Spannish Symphony for Violin and Orchestra, in D minor, Op. 21; GEORG SCHUMANN, "in Carnival Time", Two Movements from Suite for Full Orchestra, Op. 22 (First time at these concerts). Solotst:

in A major, Op. 92.

certs). Soloist:

Mr. Adamowski

At Box Office, Tyson's

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Yosemite, Feb. 25 & 26; Yellowstone, March 3 & 4;
Grand Canon, March 10 & 11; Alaska 1., March
17 & 18; Alaska II., March 24 & 25.
CARNEGIE | 1 course, 8 Sunday Evgs. at 8:15.
HALL. Beginning Feb. 28.
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Feb. 28; Moscow. March 27.
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Evg. & Sat. Mat. \$1.50
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EVES. 8:15. Mat. Saturday.
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Fri. Evr., Feb. 19, at 8—CARMEN. Caive, Lesson: Dippel, Journet, Begue. Conductor, Mott.

Sat. Mat., Feb. 20, at 145—TRAVIATA. Sentrick; Dippel, Scotti. Followed by COPPELIA (Ballet). Varasi; Francioli and corps de ballet. Conductors, Hinrichs and Franko.

Sat. Evg., Feb. 20, at 8—Special performance at special prices—FAUST. Ackte, Jacoby, Bauermeister: Naval, Campanari, Plancon. Conductor, Hinrichs. Special prices: 31.00, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$4.00.

Sun. Evg., Feb. 21, at 8:30—Popular Thesaders. Hinrichs. Special prices: 31.00, 31.30, 32.30, 34.50.

Sun. Evg., Feb. 21, at 8:30—Popular prices—
GRAND WAGNER CONCERT. Soloists: Gedski,
Fremstad, Jacoby: Kraus, Kloepfer, Geritz, Reiss.
Conductor, Hertz. Mon., Feb. 22, at 11:30 A. M.—Extra Mathace of
PARSIFAL. Termina: Burgstaller, Van Boer.
Blass, Gpritz, Journet. Conductor, Hertz.
Mon. Bvg., Feb. 22, at 8—MEJSTOPELE (prison
scene). Calve: Dippel, Journet. Polleted by
CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA.
Calve, Remair.
Dippel, Campanari; and COPPELIA (Balley, Varasi,
Braun: Francioli. Conductors, Hinrichs and
Franko. Franko.
Wed. Evg., Feb. 24, at 8 P. M.—FAUST.
Walker, Bauermeister, Naval, Campanari, Plancon.
Conductor, Hinrichs.
Thurs., Feb. 25, at 5 P. M.—Tenth and last performance PARSIFAL. Termina; Burgstaller, Van Rooy, Blass, Goritz, Journet. Conductor, Herts.
Fri. Evg., Feb. 26, at 8 P. M.—ROMEO ET JULI-ETTE. Ackte. Naval. Plancon, Journet. Conductor, Mottl.

Only production this season of

Der Ring des Nibelungen. Thurs. Evg., March 3, at 8:30-DAS RHEIM GOLD.
Sat. Evg., March 5, at 7:30—DIE WALKURDE.
Wed. Evg., March 9, at 7:30—SIEGFRIED.
Thurs. Evg., March 10, at 7:30—
DIE GOETTERDAEMMERUNG.
Seats for ENTIRE O'VCLE (4 performances)
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LYRICHWAY, 7th Ave., 42d St. Evg. 5:15. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:15. WILTON LACKAYE THE PIT CASINO Mat. Sat. AN ENGLISH DAISY Reginning next Monday, Feb. 22, (Washington's Birthday Matingo). EARL Great SERGEANT Combo Opera KITTY Seats on Sale at 9 A. M. TO-487.

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